

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

By the instant preliminary amendment, amendments have been made to the specification and drawings as in the parent application. Further, a cross reference to the parent application has been added to the specification on page 1. Further, claims 1-12 have been cancelled and new claims 13 and 14 have been added. New claims 13 and 14 are claims 34 and 66, respectively, as presented in the parent application. The amendments do not contain any new matter.

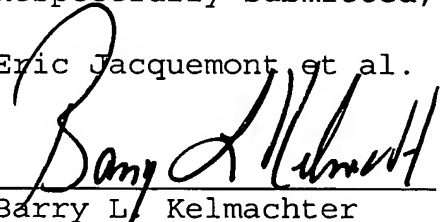
Should the Examiner believe an additional amendment is needed to place the case in condition for allowance, he is invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number listed below.

No fee is believed to be due as a result of this response. Should the Commissioner determine that a fee is due, he is hereby authorized to charge said fee to Deposit Account No. 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

Eric Jacquemont et al.

By

  
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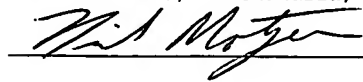
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Date: March 19, 2004

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I, Nicole Motzer, hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313" on March 19, 2004.



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